



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/771,453 Confirmation No. 2950  
Applicant : WATANABE, Y. et al.  
Filed : February 5, 2004  
Title : STORAGE SYSTEM, AND CONTROL METHOD, JOB  
SCHEDULING PROCESSING METHOD, AND FAILURE  
HANDLING METHOD THEREFOR, AND PROGRAM FOR  
EACH METHOD  
TC/AU : 2186  
Examiner : TBD  
Docket No. : NIT-409  
Customer No.: 24956

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the application prior to examination, as follows:

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 2 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper; and

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.